



Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes
Wednesday, Aug 10th, 2016, 5:30-7:30 pm meeting
Gardening Matters
Sabathani Center, Room J, 310 E 38th St, Minneapolis

Attendance: Russ Henry (co-chair), Zoe Hollomon, Miguel Goebel, Gayle Prest, Patty Bowler, Ruhel Islam, Cam Gordon, Allison Meyer, Kate Seybold, Journey Gosselin, Donald Warneke, Erick Garcia Luna, LaCora Bradford Kesti, Briana MacPhee, Caroline Devany

Others in Attendance: Tamara Downs Schwei (Homegrown Minneapolis Coordinator), Sam Johnson (Homegrown Minneapolis intern), Melanie Heckt, Abe Levine, Karl Hakanson, Sasha Bergman, Michael Dahl, Diane Beck, Hannah Ramer, Sarah Hagen, Brian Hagen, Vish Vasani

Absent: Saba Anduaem, MPRB Representative, Latasha Powell, DeVon Nolen (co-chair), Martin Brown, Andrew Dahl, Beth Dooley, Roe Reinberg, Pakou Hang, Jillia Pessenda

Pre-meeting presentation: The Food Council and guests were given a presentation about Gardening Matters by Susan Phillips.

1) Icebreaker, Introduction of members and guests, approval of the agenda and July meeting minutes Allison Meyer called the meeting to order. Erick Garcia Luna motioned to approve the agenda and minutes and Gayle Prest seconded the motion. They were approved unanimously. Everyone introduced themselves and mentioned their favorite vegetable.

2) Celebrate achievements (individual/group) over past month Allison and other Food Council members acknowledged several Food Council members for their personal and professional achievements over the past month.

3) Presentation and discussion: next state legislative process & special session Sasha Bergman of the City of Minneapolis Intergovernmental Relations Department (IGR) made a presentation and answered questions regarding legislative agenda development, approval and advocacy at the city and state level. The IGR department acts as a spokesperson and liaison between the city and other forms of government (especially the state government). They act in accordance with the legislative agenda and policy positions that are developed and approved by city departments, the Mayor and City Council.

4) Discussion: Review of Roberts Rules for Food Council meetings Allison Meyer discussed the FC's use of Roberts Rules. The FC does not use Roberts Rules in a strict fashion but for some parts of meeting facilitation and formal group actions. Allison shared that Roberts Rules work well for calling a meeting to order, putting formal support behind an official position, and tracking/approving meeting minutes. She encouraged the group to use them as a way to empower dissenting voices and make opinions heard. Lastly, she asked that if the rules kept members from feeling comfortable when contributing to discussion, that members reach out to Tamara, Gayle or the FC Executive Committee who can help familiarize the member to the rules or find another solution to their issue.

5) Discussion: Janice Barbee's final report; next steps for Food Council Allison Meyer and Patty Bowler shared an overview of Janice Barbee's final summary report on the surveys FC members completed before and after her presentations on equity and her recommendations for possible next steps. Janice provided recommendations to the FC based partly on the results of the surveys. Her recommendations can be found in the report.

The Food Council discussed and reacted to the report by suggesting the following:

- Ask guest speakers to provide follow-up materials regarding the topic of their presentation
- Revisit the buddy system for new members
- Include equity practices in working-group structure and processes



- Take time to encourage quieter members to share their thoughts in meetings
- Continue exploring “rotating facilitators” of discussions at the Food Council meetings, engage members in sharing their work experiences and skills
- Email training follow-up suggestions and resources to the EC
- Seek resources such as equity toolkits and frameworks, or other useful resources, from city staff who are working on equity
- Include equity information/materials in the Food Council’s orientation manual

LaCora Bradford Kesti volunteered to compile and share some resources with the group.

6) Discussion: Open House location recommendation- December 2016 event Tamara Downs Schwei reminded the group of the upcoming Food Council Annual Open House (planned for early December) and suggested the Seward Montessori Elementary School as the 2016 location. The event has rotated around different locations in the City. Last year it was held at Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) Davis Center at 1250 West Broadway Ave, and catered by the MPS Culinary and Wellness Services team. Tamara described the Seward site as having ample (newly remodeled) space, accessible, affordable, and allows us to partner with MPS Culinary and Wellness Services again to cater the event. The Executive Committee endorsed this suggested location and the full Food Council was also supportive. Tamara asked the Food Council to indicate preference for the event date and the group settled on Thursday, the 1st of December with the 8th of December as a backup date. The Open House is an event that all Food Council members attend and support on the day of the event and open to the entire community.

7) Working Group meetings

Breakout 1 6:30-6:55 pm (Land Access/Tenure & Healthy Food Access Policies)

Breakout 2 6:55-7:20 pm (Parks and Food & Local Food Procurement)

8) Member Updates

- Caroline- LSP convening a conversation about race and agriculture happening this Friday in Lake City.
- Zoe- MFAN Quarterly meeting on August 17th from 9-noon at Wilder Foundation in St. Paul, focused on equity. Workshop around ‘The danger of a single story.’
- Donald – MN Food Charter comp planning team is meeting with cities and counties about their comprehensive plans.
- Kate Seybold – Annual Farm-to-school BBQ occurring Sept 22nd. She invited the FC to attend and asked who can staff a booth.
- Ruhel – Tea composting workshop is occurring in their garden, Aug 16th. They are having an event to share their story, August 28th. Gandhi Mahal Restaurant will do a cooking demo for MN Cooks at the state fair.
- Tamara – Pollinator patches available from Mpls Environmental Health, contact Tiana Cervantes

7:35pm Meeting adjourned.

Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at Pillsbury United Communities (PUC)

125 W Broadway Ave, Suite 130, Minneapolis

Presentation from PUC staff about North Market and PUC programs 5:00-5:30; Meeting 5:30-7:30 pm